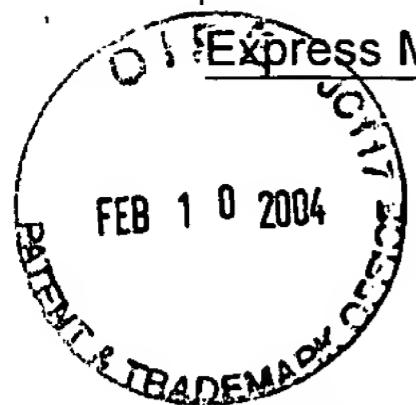


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2877.



Express Mail No. EV343595628US

Attorney Docket No. 29195-8165US
Client Ref No. P01-0044

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: THOMAS L. RITZDORF ET AL.
APPLICATION No.: 09/902,491
FILED: JULY 9, 2001
FOR: METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR PROCESSING
MICROELECTRONIC WORKPIECES USING
METROLOGY

EXAMINER: ZANDRA V. SMITH
ART UNIT: 2877
CONF. No: 7344

**Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement
Before First Office Action after the Filing of a Request for Continued Examination
Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 – 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(4)**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

1. Timing of Submission

This information disclosure is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 [37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(4)]. The references listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified) may be material to the examination of this application; the Examiner is requested to make them of record in the application.

2. Cited Information

Copies of the following references are enclosed:

- All cited references
- References marked by asterisks
- The following:

Copies of the following references can be found in parent U.S. Application Nos. 09/612,176, 09/733,608, 09/866,463, and 09/872,151:

- All cited references
- References not marked by asterisks
- The following:

3. Effect of Information Disclosure Statement (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(h))

This Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that: (i) a search has been made; (ii) additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist; (iii) the information, protocols, results and the like reported by third parties are accurate or enabling; or (iv) the cited information is, or is considered to be, material to

patentability. In addition, applicant does not admit that any enclosed item of information constitutes prior art to the subject invention and specifically reserves the right to demonstrate that any such reference is not prior art.

4. Fee Payment

No fees are believed due because this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action.

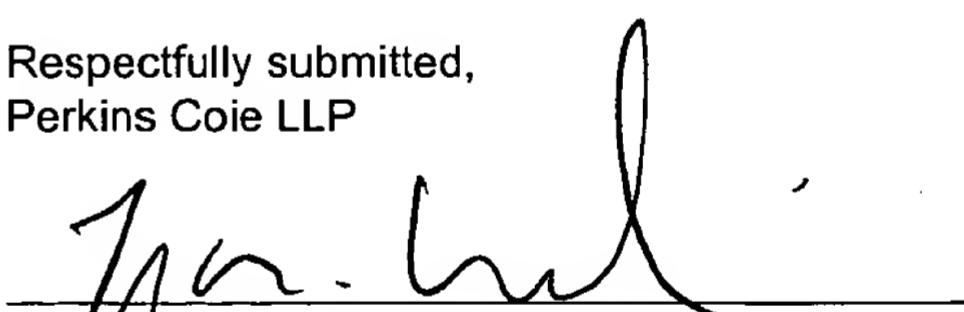
- Applicant further submits that no fee is due in light of the following certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) (check only one):
 - In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1), the undersigned hereby states that each item of information submitted herewith was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement; or
 - In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2), the undersigned hereby states that no item of information submitted herewith was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, or, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c), more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

However, should the Commissioner determine that fees are due in order for this Information Disclosure Statement to be considered, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0665.

5. Patent Term Adjustment (37 C.F.R. § 1.704(d))

- The undersigned states that each item of information submitted herewith was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and that this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of this statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.704(d).

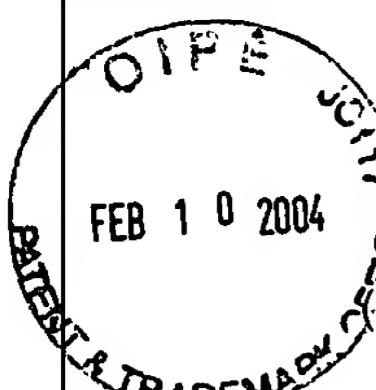
Respectfully submitted,
Perkins Coie LLP


John M. Wechkin
Registration No. 42,216

Date: Feb. 10, 2004

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**
Form PTO-1449 (Modified)
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Sheet

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of

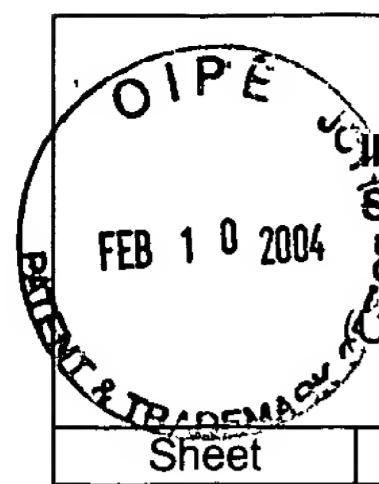
11

COMPLETE IF KNOWN	
Application Number	09/902,491
Confirmation Number	7344
Filing Date	July 9, 2001
First Named Inventor	Thomas L. Ritzdorf
Group Art Unit	2877
Examiner Name	Zandra V. Smith
Attorney Docket No.	29195-8165US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

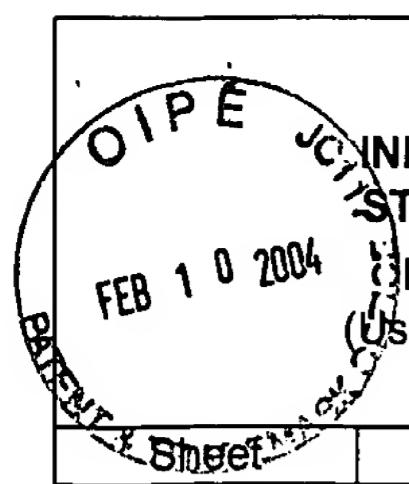
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	U.S. Patent or Application		Name of Patentee or Inventor of Cited Document	Date of Publication or Filing Date of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Figures Appear
		NUMBER	Kind Code (if known)			
		08/940,524		Bleck et al.	09/30/97	
		09/114,105		Woodruff et al.	07/11/98	
		09/679,928		Woodruff et al.	10/05/00	
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		3,664,933		Clauss	05/23/72	
		3,706,635		Kowalski	12/19/72	
		3,716,462		Jensen	02/13/73	
		*3,727,620		Orr	04/17/73	
		3,878,066		Dettke et al.	04/15/75	
		3,930,963		Polichette et al.	01/06/76	
		*3,953,265		Hood	04/27/76	
		4,000,046		Weaver	12/28/76	
		4,030,015		Herko et al.	06/14/77	
		4,046,105		Gomez	09/06/77	
		4,113,391		Minowa	09/12/78	
		*4,132,567		Blackwood	01/02/79	
		4,134,802		Herr	01/16/79	
		*4,276,855		Seddon	07/07/81	
EXAMINER			DATE CONSIDERED			

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not criteria is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to application(s).

 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Form PTO-1449 (Modified) (Use several sheets if necessary)				COMPLETE IF KNOWN	
Sheet	2	of	11	Application Number	09/902,491
				Confirmation Number	7344
				Filing Date	July 9, 2001
				First Named Inventor	Thomas L. Ritzdorf
				Group Art Unit	2877
				Examiner Name	Zandra V. Smith
				Attorney Docket No.	29195-8165US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
		U.S. Patent or Application			
		*4,286,541	Blackwood	09/01/81	
		4,304,641	Grandia et al.	12/08/81	
		4,384,930	Eckles	05/24/83	
		4,437,943	Beck et al.	03/20/84	
		*4,439,243	Titus	03/27/84	
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		4,443,117	Muramoto et al.	04/17/84	
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		*4,557,785	Ohkuma	06/27/84	
		4,566,847	Maeda et al.	01/28/86	
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		4,634,503	Nogavich	01/06/87	
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		*4,732,785	Brewer	09/26/86	
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		4,761,214	Hinman	08/02/88	
		4,781,800	Goldman et al.	11/01/88	
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Sheet <u>1</u> of <u>11</u>	3	of	11	Application Number	09/902,491
				Confirmation Number	7344
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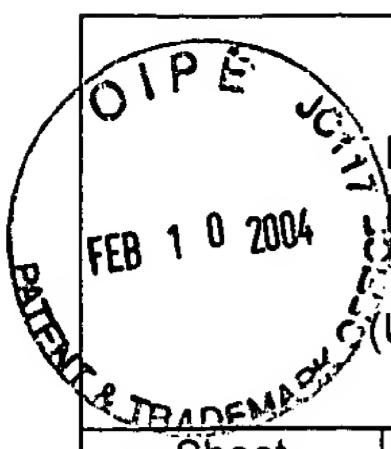
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
		U.S. Patent or Application			
		4,949,671	Davis et al.	08/21/90	
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				Application Number	09/902,491
				Confirmation Number	7344
				Filing Date	July 9, 2001
				First Named Inventor	Thomas L. Ritzdorf
				Group Art Unit	2877
				Examiner Name	Zandra V. Smith
Sheet	4	of	11	Attorney Docket No.	29195-8165US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
		U.S. Patent or Application			
		5,252,807	Chizinsky	10/12/93	
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		5,302,464	Nomura et al.	04/12/94	
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		5,584,971	Komino	12/17/96	

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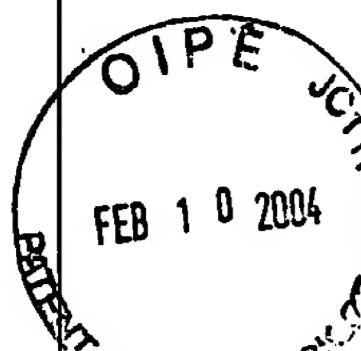
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Application Number	09/902,491
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First Named Inventor	Thomas L. Ritzdorf
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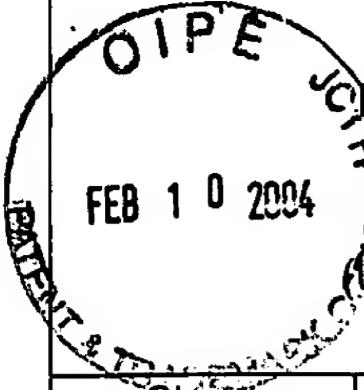
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EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Form PTO-1449 (Modified) (Use several sheets if necessary)				COMPLETE IF KNOWN	
 Sheet 6 of 11		Application Number	09/902,491		
		Confirmation Number	7344		
		Filing Date	July 9, 2001		
		First Named Inventor	Thomas L. Ritzdorf		
		Group Art Unit	2877		
		Examiner Name	Zandra V. Smith		
		Attorney Docket No.	29195-8165US		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS				
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		5,908,543	Matsunami et al.	06/01/99
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		5,932,077	Reynolds	08/03/99
		5,937,142	Moslehi et al.	08/10/99
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		5,980,706	Bleck et al.	11/09/99
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		*5,997,653	Yamasaka	12/07/99
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				Confirmation Number	7344
				Filing Date	July 9, 2001
				First Named Inventor	Thomas L. Ritzdorf
				Group Art Unit	2877
				Examiner Name	Zandra V. Smith
				Attorney Docket No.	29195-8165US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
		U.S. Patent or Application			
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		6,228,232	Woodruff et al.	05/08/01	
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		6,277,263	Chen	08/21/01	
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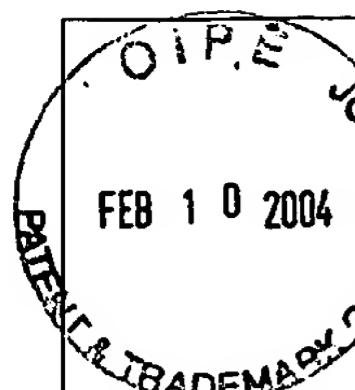
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				Group Art Unit	2877
				Examiner Name	Zandra V. Smith
Sheet	8	of	11	Attorney Docket No.	29195-8165US

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		6,297,154	Gross et al.	10/02/01
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Examiner Initial	Cite No.	Foreign Patent or Application		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication or Filing Date of Cited Document
		Office	NUMBER	Kind Code (if known)	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Figures Appear
		PCT	WO 99/41434	ACM Research, Inc.	08/19/99
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		PCT	WO 02/97165	Semitool, Inc.	12/05/02
		PCT	WO 00/61498	Wilson et al.	10/19/00

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Application Number	09/902,491
Confirmation Number	7344
Filing Date	July 9, 2001
First Named Inventor	Thomas L. Ritzdorf
Group Art Unit	2877
Examiner Name	Zandra V. Smith
Attorney Docket No.	29195-8165US

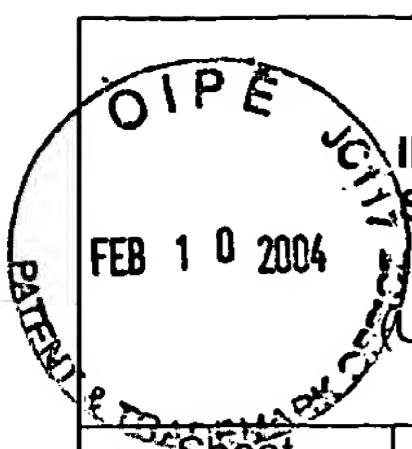
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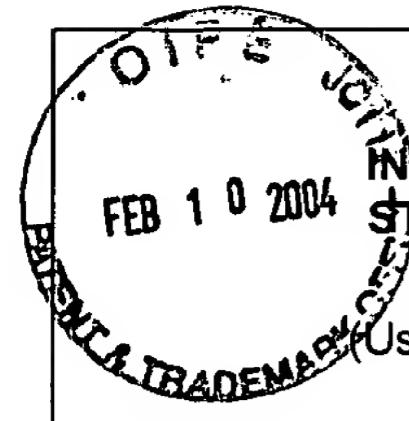
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		International Search Report PCT/US02/17203, Semitool, Inc., December 31, 2002, 4 pgs			
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